

NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Brood sows on the average farm may be almost entirely supported by waste products. And those same waste products form the best sort of balanced ration. Skim milk, butter milk, windfall apples, parings, a run in the orchard, with shade, and after the litters are weaned and growing nicely, a run in the stubble to clean up every kernel of grain, and in the clover fields after hay has been cut.

Sow some rye for fall green forage for the poultry. It lasts until snow comes and is there in the spring for early picking. It makes fine pasture for the turkeys even if at quite a distance from the house. It disinfects the soil and is a good crop to sow on the poultry runs this month to rid the soil of impurities.

Train the colts, don't break them. Many a good horse has been spoiled by breaking him when a colt. Get his mouth accustomed to the bit before a harness is put on him. Be gentle and patient and you can make a good horse out of almost any colt.

"Candling" eggs upon their arrival in the city results in throwing out many thousands of dozens each year. Five per cent. of them all are culled as "dirties" and sold at a reduced price causing the loss of millions of dollars every year.

The best medicine for poultry is good care. Cleanliness, light, warmth, dry houses, sound feet and pure water are better than the whole list of remedies. These are the "ounces of prevention" that save the "pounds of cure."

Unless free from lice, no flock will thrive as it ought, and the owner should help the chicks rid themselves of these pests by providing proper dust baths and occasionally dusting them himself with insect powder.

It is a good plan to give the young pigs a good start along early in life. Very many make the mistake of crimping the pigs, thereby expecting to get more lean meat. The muscles grow when the pigs grow.

There are yet a few dairymen who think they can judge a cow by her conformation. To satisfy yourself, keep the accurate record of every cow in the herd and see how form and performance coincide.

A poultry house need not be artificially heated to be warm enough for the hens to be comfortable and lay eggs, but it should be built very tight and snug, so as to exclude all drafts of cold air.

It is easier to make a man a better dairy feeder by suggestion than by command. That's why the test association is so valuable. When he sees how it helps he is a willing learner.

Mulch dahlias, cannas, caladiums and like plants with coarse manure and deluge with water. If water cannot be had, withhold the manure, as manure alone is drying.

Eggs and meat are the foundation of the poultry business. Let us aim for this standard more, then we will have better "standard breed" and more profitable poultry.

The safest rule is to commence feeding in good season if the pastures begin to fail and not wait until the cows actually begin to fail in milk production.

To supply good food for the dairy it is necessary to exercise forethought and plan for the fall season which is sure to come every year.

Many horses have sore shoulders because their owners try to fit their horses into their collars rather than getting collars to fit their horses.

There are bee-keepers all over the United States who, with a favorable locality and good management, are making an excellent living.

Probably no single cause tends more to check milk secretion than the failure to remove all the milk secreted at the time of milking.

A tread-power rigged up to run the separator will save a lot of hand labor and give the ram or bull much needed exercise.

Ducks and geese should have plenty of fresh water to drink as soon as they are hatched.

There is no one stated ration that should be fed to poultry or laying hens in winter.

Are you getting the best possible results from your bees?

Cows that are expected to return a profit must have liberal rations of the kinds of food adapted to their needs. They must have dry, comfortable and well ventilated sleeping places and be kept free from excitement caused by exposure and neglect. The practice of allowing the dairy herd to run over the farm and be herded by dogs and children and compelled to eat frosty clover and forage cannot be made to return a profit, even though they may consume waste fodders and forage.

Saving the best ewes is not the only thing. He must not in-breed, but must buy the best sire he can find, not only in blood-lines, but also in individuality, a ram that looks like a sire, with strong head, well-sprung ribs, and large heart girth, a ram with a strong bone, two good ends and a good, straight back. The breeder must not consider his pocketbook.

Potato growers who "feed" their potatoes well, and give them good care, and select the best potatoes for planting do not need to change their seed stock every few years in order to maintain the yield, because by so doing they maintain the yielding power in the potatoes they already have.

Every thinking farmer knows that there are certain essentials that cannot be neglected at any season of the year if the cows are kept in condition to give milk, and that if any or all of these essentials are neglected there is sure to be a falling away in the milk yield.

In making a kerosene "emulsion" of any kind for the eradication of lice, mites, flies, etc., great care must be taken to see that the combination is surely emulsified or serious results may follow and more hide be "eradicated" than anything else.

Two things that deserve constant attention at this time are the bits and the blankets. Never allow a frosty bit to come in contact with the horse's mouth and never leave the team without being well and comfortably blanketed.

For the average dairyman it is cheaper to raise his own cows than to buy them. Besides, if he has good cows to begin with he can more wisely select the calves because of an intimate knowledge of the work of the mothers.

The black rot of tomatoes is a difficult disease to control. Applications of Bordeaux Mixture, if begun when the tomatoes are just forming and continued until they are fairly well grown, will prevent the disease.

It has been predicted by an authority that the time is not far distant when the small dairyman will not be able to afford pasture. If this time should come, then indeed would the silo come into its own.

While the value of the birds to the farmer, orchardist and planter has for years been recognized, it is believed by the authorities that their importance in preserving the forests is not generally known.

A hen should be fed some grain that she doesn't have to scratch for. Although exercise is necessary to keep her in good health, she needs time to rest and dust herself in the middle of the day.

Some hens are born layers, others acquire the laying habit, others get credit for being good layers when they are not. The trap net picks them out and leaves no guess work.

Do not run the risk of perpetuating weak characteristics in your herd by breeding animals that are uncertain. The progeny is sure to inherit all the faults of the parents.

As a rule very little can be done for dopy chickens. The cause of this condition is usually constitutional weakness; lice, or, error in feeding and management.

Hill selection of potatoes may sometimes be beneficial for the purpose of selecting the best strain where the potatoes consist of two or more strains.

Selling the breeding stock because feed is dear is just as sensible as selling good grain because you can get a good price for it. Think this over.

Is the binder properly stored away for the winter, or will the first snow storm still find it just where it was left when drawn out of the field?

During the hot months pansies will not bloom much; try cutting the plant back for fall flowering. Hot weather blooming weakens the plant.

One good cow is superior to three poor ones in the dairy; the difference is the cost of the feed and the product of the cows.

We would like to see more bee-keepers at the state fairs, and have them put up a display of bees and honey.

Any good type of colt will sell for more per pound when three years old than a calf.

Better quarters for the poultry need not mean more elaborate or more expensive houses.

Hogging off the corn is a cheap way of corning off the hog.

PROMINENT PEOPLE

PRESIDENT OF PORTUGAL



Theophile Braga, provisional president of Portugal, in an interview, emphasizes what he calls the "philosophical" source of the revolution. The men who have been spreading the doctrine of republicanism, he says, are professors, mathematicians, writers and generally men of learning. The result, he thinks, is, first of all, a victory for the cause of "education"—an effort to restore the Portuguese people to the intellectual rank lost for so long a time.

"It is our aim," he says, "to show the Portuguese as a race of the elite, both physically and intellectually. It is our greatest honor by an admirable revolution to demonstrate to the world that the Portuguese are worthy of their ancestors."

From the names announced of the provisional government the "intellectuals," the idealist republicans who dream of making Portugal worthy of her former glory, have carried through this movement, or at any rate are for the moment in control. Putting Theophile Braga, the one Portuguese scholar of international reputation, at their head, is a shrewd move on the part of the revolutionists. It follows the curious Latin fashion of bestowing political power on literary men, but it also declares to Europe that the true men of progress, the men of education and of position, are directing the revolution, and not the street rabble of Lisbon. Among Senhor Braga's colleagues are many college professors, while military and naval men are noticeably absent.

Dr. Theophile Braga is a man about fifty-five years old and a graduate of a leading European university. He began the practice of medicine in Lisbon when a young man and has been prominent throughout Portugal for many years past.

About three years ago Dr. Braga identified himself with the intellectual wing of the Republican party and became president of the committee of seven of that organization. In this office he wielded great political power, and his undoubted honesty and well-known integrity won many supporters for the party which was destined to obtain control of affairs. He was long associated with Dr. Bernardino Machado, one of the foremost professors of the Lisbon university.

LEADS NEW YORK DEMOCRATS



John A. Dix, the Democratic nominee for governor in New York, is a prosperous business man and interested in various corporations. He was born at Glens Falls in 1860. He was educated at the academy there, and entered Cornell university in the class of 1883, but left in his junior year. In 1889 he married Miss Gertrude Allen Thomson, the daughter of a lumber merchant. He began his business career as a member of the firm of Reynolds & Dix, dealers in black marble, and later became associated with Lemont Thomson in the lumber business.

Mr. Dix is not unfamiliar with politics, however, being chairman of the Democratic state committee and a former candidate for lieutenant-governor, when he ran with Lewis Stuyvesant Chanler in 1908. Even prior to that time, in 1906, when William R. Hearst was nominated for governor at Buffalo the name of John A. Dix went before the convention and he received some complimentary votes.

Mr. Dix comes of a noted family and is a great-grandnephew of Gen. John A. Dix, former Republican governor of the state, who while serving as secretary of the treasury early in 1861, issued the famous order, familiar since from ocean to ocean: "If any man attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot." Mr. Dix is heavily interested in wall paper factories and also in lumbering and banking and has had a successful business career.

His work in creating a county chairman's organization won him the nomination for lieutenant-governor two years ago. He favored them, and does now, a system whereby the power of the county chairman should be more absolute than at present.

After his unsuccessful campaign two years ago Mr. Dix certified to the secretary of state that he contributed \$3,983.50 for campaign expenses, of which \$2,500 went to the state committee.

IS ESTEEMED BY QUEEN MARY



The beautiful Lady Lister-Kaye, who was Natalia Yznaga, the youngest of the three charming Yznaga sisters of New York, is one American resident in England who need have no fear for her position in society or of her reception by royalty. For some time speculation has been rife as to the social fate of the American women in King George's reign. There is a general feeling that for a while at least they will be much less conspicuous at court than they were during the late King Edward's regime. However, Lady Lister-Kaye is sure of her standing and knows that she will be quite welcome at Buckingham palace.

This gracious daughter of America is a sister of the late Dowager Duchess of Manchester (Constance Yznaga), who was one of King Edward's most esteemed confidants and with whom her friendship was of long duration. Unlike many of the late ruler's associates the dowager duchess was a close friend of Queen Alexandra and held a prominent place in all things social in the royal set. Lady Lister-Kaye was not only highly regarded by the late king and Queen Alexandra, but she has enjoyed the warm friendship of Queen Mary for several years, which is somewhat unusual, as Queen Mary and Queen Alexandra have few friends in common. While the queen was princess of Wales she honored this American woman conspicuously by dining in her home several times. Beyond these personal ties is the fact that her husband, Sir John Lister-Kaye, is a groom-in-waiting upon King George.

Though certain of the residents in the American colony in London may not be in first favor in royal society this winter, Lady Lister-Kaye will not be denied her position and, as has been the case for many years past, a member of the Yznaga family will be prominent in the social affairs of royalty.

LOS ANGELES TIMES' OWNER



Gen. Harrison Gray Otis is the owner and editor of the Los Angeles Times, the building and plant of which was recently wrecked by an explosion attributed to enemies of the paper.

General Otis was born near Marietta, Ohio, February 19, 1837. With the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted as a private in the Twelfth Ohio Infantry, June 25, 1861. He was made a second lieutenant November 12, 1862, and a first lieutenant May 20, 1863. He was transferred to the Twenty-third Ohio Infantry July 1, 1864, and made a captain July 25, 1864. He was brevetted a major and lieutenant colonel March 13, 1865, for gallant and meritorious service during the war and was honorably mustered out July 26, 1865. He was twice wounded during the war.

In 1866-67 General Otis was official reporter for the Ohio house of representatives and was foreman of the government printing office 1868-69. During 1870 and 1876 he was chief of a division in the United States patent office, and special agent of the United States treasury in charge of the seal islands of Alaska, 1879-81.

General Otis was appointed a brigadier general of the United States volunteers May 27, 1898, and placed in command of the First brigade, Second division of the Eighth army corps, in the Philippine islands. He led the brigade at the capture of Calocan, February 10, 1899. He was brevetted a major general of volunteers March 25, 1899, and honorably discharged July 2, 1899. He entered journalism in California thirty-three years ago.

MARK THE BOUNDARY

Each Nation Has Way of Delineating Its Frontier.

Pillars and Statues Most Commonly Used Where Natural Boundaries Do Not Exist—Most Famous of All Marks.

London.—Happy is the country which possesses natural boundaries. England is better off in this respect than almost any other nation, for the whole of her 2,755 miles of frontier is guarded by the sea. Next comes Italy with 2,472 miles of coastline, and the Alps like a wall across her northern boundary.

Contrast these cases with those of Germany and Austria. The latter country has a frontier line of about 3,800 miles, of which 2,996 is land, every mile of which must be guarded against the encroachments of her neighbors. Germany is almost equally badly off, for her seacoast line is only 744 miles, while 2,255 miles of land frontier border upon Russia, Austria, Switzerland, France, Holland and Belgium, and far the larger portion of this great distance is not protected by mountains, rivers or any other natural boundary.

The Germans guard their frontiers with unceasing vigilance, especially that which faces France along the southern border of Elsass-Lothringen, and France is by no means behind in



Post of Iron and Wood.

her precautions. The steep Vosges mountains guard a portion of this frontier, but the rest is flat country, and the boundary line runs through forests and fields.

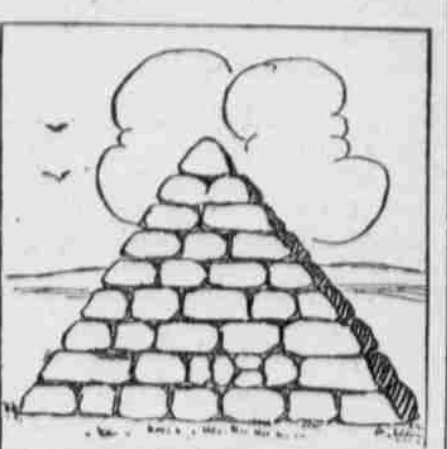
Where the line runs through woods a broad belt has been cleared, and is kept free of all undergrowth. Along the center, at distances of about a quarter of a mile, are erected stone posts very like ordinary milestones. Whenever a road runs along the frontier it is marked by tall wooden posts painted on one side with the French and upon the other with the German colors. Customs houses stand not only on the railways, but upon all main lines of traffic, and are well guarded by police and troops. Rows are of constant occurrence.

The Russo-German frontier is marked in similar fashion, and here troubles are of frequent occurrence, for the hungry, ill-paid cossacks are constantly raiding over the border in search of poultry and pigs.

While the boundary between the United States and Canada follows for many hundreds of miles the River St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes, there is a vast distance of prairie land beyond with no natural demarcation. This is artificially delimited by pillars of iron and wood placed a mile apart. These are supplied alternately by the Canadian and United States governments, and run from Lake of the Woods to the Red River Valley. Beyond, mounds of earth and cairns of stones are used as marks.

The pillars are hollow castings, eight feet high, eight inches square at the base, four at the top. Inside are well seasoned cedar posts. Each pillar is inscribed in raised letters on the north, "Convention of London," on the south, "Oct. 20th, 1818." The stone cairns are seven feet high, eight feet at the base, and shaped like a pyramid. Earth is used where stone is not available.

The most famous of all boundary marks in song and story is the "Pillar



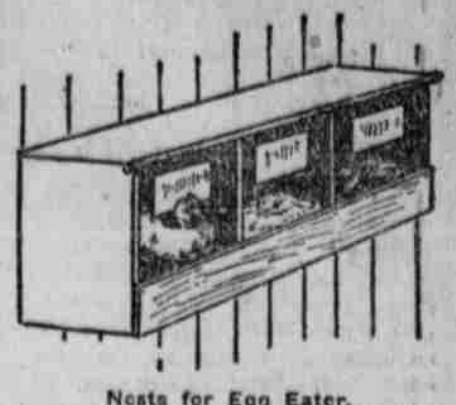
Stone Cairn, Seven Feet High.

of Farewell," which marks the line between Russia and Siberia. It stands between Ekaterinburg in Russia and Tumen in Siberia, and is on the main road along which tens of thousands of exiles have passed. It is an obelisk of brick about sixteen feet in height. On the west side it bears in Russian characters the word "Europe," on the other "Asia."

HEN'S NEST FOR EGG EATERS

Excellent Method Is to Place Light Swinging Doors in Front of Nest as Illustrated.

A good plan to prevent hens from eating their own eggs is shown in the illustration. Light doors are hung in the front of each nest. These swinging doors are attached to a rod which is supported in the front row of nests by hooks. This is to enable the owner to remove the doors so as to assist in cleaning. It is said that the hens like



Nests for Egg Eater.

these nests after becoming accustomed to them, and that the device is a sure cure for egg eating.

Egg eating by fowls sometimes becomes a serious vice. Chickens become fond of eggs after they have learned to eat them and the habit often spreads among a flock. It usually begins through accident by eggs being broken or frozen. Be careful to see that this does not happen. See that the nests are supplied properly with straw or other nesting material, and have them darkened so that if an egg is broken accidentally the fowls will not be likely to discover it. Supply plenty of lime in the form of oyster shells, bone or similar substances to insure a firm shell.

TO START FIRST INCUBATOR

Directions Followed Closely Will Result in More Chicks—Selection of Fresh Eggs Essential.

(By BESSIE L. PUTNAM.) It is ready to work at any and all seasons; the oil to run it costs less than the food for hens doing the same amount of work; there is no trouble from vermin; broilers can be produced early without interrupting biddy when laying her highest priced eggs; the care of the incubator is less work than that of the hens to do its work, especially during the inclement season, and is more agreeable. These are some of the arguments in favor of the incubator.

On the other hand, a reliable hen will produce fewer cripples, and perhaps have better success if the eggs happen to not be perfectly fresh; yet on this point science is making rapid strides. While it should not be necessary to sit up nights with the incubator, neither is it wise to treat it like a clock—to be wound up once a day and left to itself for the remainder of the time.

A cellar is apt to be damp and lack ventilation. A chamber makes too much running up and down stairs. If possible have it in a room adjoining the one where the work is done.

Good results come, if the kitchen is large enough, by placing the machine in one corner. Many successful poultry women give it a place in the living-room, and even the parlor may be used, as there is nothing unsightly or untidy about the work save the day or two during the hatching process; and then the interest makes amends for the temporary disorder.

Before buying, secure catalogues from several reliable dealers, study carefully the claims of the manufacturers and your own requirements.

Avoid the cheapest machine of any make. As a rule it is so small that it is difficult to secure uniformity of temperature in the egg chamber. The nursery, an important adjunct, is usually lacking in the smallest machines. If one of the largest size is chosen it will be found cumbersome; it requires too long time for filling; your own eggs are used; if the hatch happens to be a poor one your loss is that much greater.

A machine of about 100-egg capacity is large enough for the beginner, contains all essential conveniences, and one can later increase the capacity if success attends the humbler effort.

Study both directions and machine thoroughly before starting the incubator. Have it on a firm, level foundation and remember that good ventilation and avoidance of drafts are as necessary to the chick in embryo as to the human being.

The experienced hand always runs an incubator a day or two before filling, to make sure that the parts are working properly. The novice with a new machine should not feel it time lost to wait until three days after she has learned to control the heat at or about the required notch. The germs are especially sensitive during the first few days, and undue heating will ruin the entire hatch.

The fresher the eggs the larger the percentage of chicks. Never use those over two weeks old, and two days is much better.

Uses the Ax.

A very prominent poultry man says he never has any disease among his poultry because he made it a practice to keep a good sharp ax always ready and by killing and burning any bird showing symptoms of any other than a simple trouble, and by maintaining strict cleanliness in and around the poultry quarters, he has stamped out disease.